



Class E757

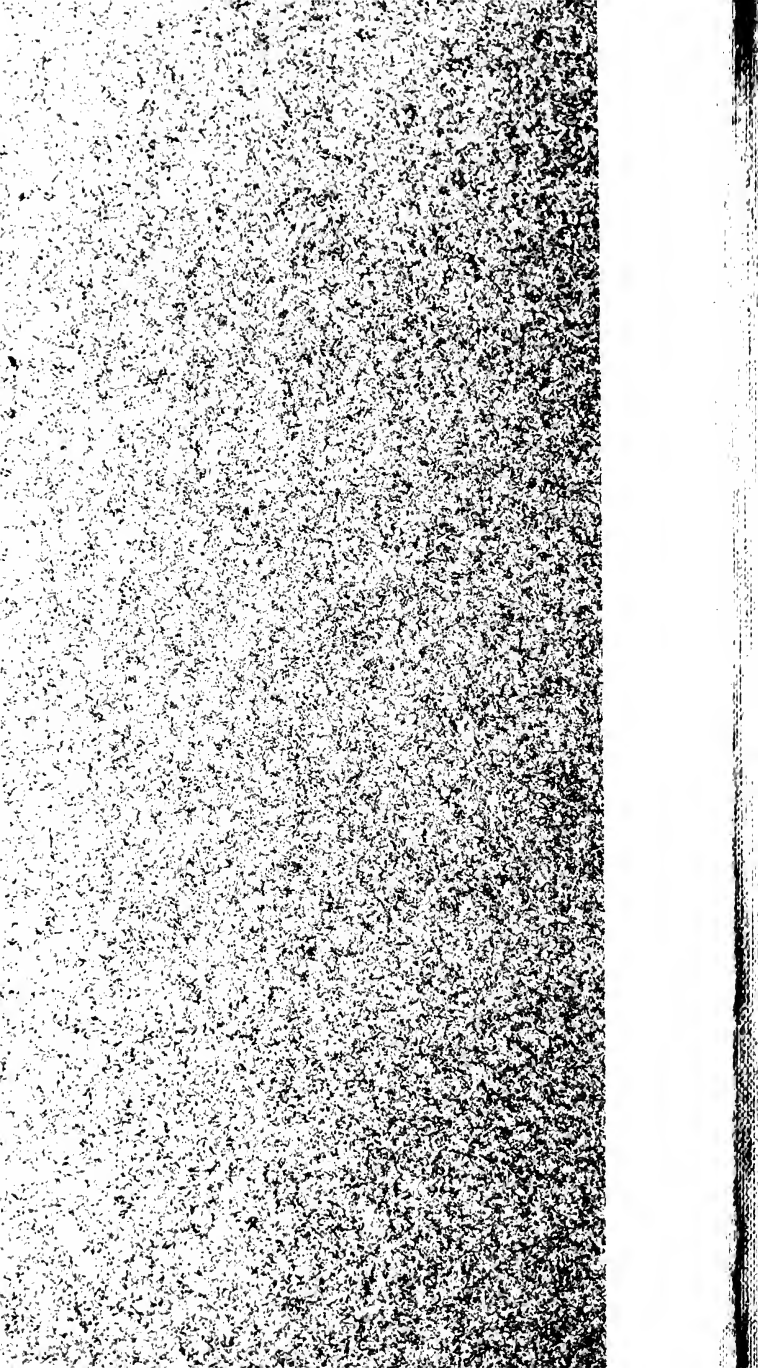
Book M95

1907a

Author _____

Title _____

Imprint _____



THE
BOOK OF TED

OR

ROOSEVELT AND THE RAILROADS
IN SCRIPTURE

PRICE, 25 CENTS



F. ALISTER MURRAY



1914 26 1/2

EVEN

THE BOOK OF TED

INTRODUCTION

The Book of Ted is a satirical summary—more or less biblical, but not bilious—of recent large events in the financial world, especially those bearing directly on the railroad problem.

Copyright, 1907 by Frank Alister Murray.

GIFT
MRS. WOODROW WILSON
NOV. 25, 1939

THE BOOK OF TED



CHAPTER I.

1. It came to pass in those day there sprang out of the West two chiefs of the Tribes of Rail.

2. Now one of them was called E—Double—H., and the other was called Double—J—H.

3. They were not of kin, but their enmity one to the other was very great.

4. In their heat they uttered wild imprecations; their loins were girt ever for battle, which they waged ceaselessly with deadly engines, spikes and other implements of wrought iron.

5. And they did issue edicts one against the other, until the people were distraught; and the tribes were divided within themselves.

6. The people said among themselves: Who is the false prophet? Can both the chiefs be false prophets?

7. And they were sore perplexed.

8. So it came to pass that the King of all the Tribes of Rail (now he was the first of the Teds) called his wise men together into council and spake in this wise:

9. O, judges of the Tribes of Rail! commissioners of traffic, I command thee to tell me why this uprising among my people. There cannot be two masters, though there may be many.

10. Strange things have come unto mine ears from Double—H. and Double—J, each accusing the other of usurping the power of my exalted position.

11. Each claims the gift of prophecy, which is vouchsafed to none but me in my day and generation.

12. The people are despoiled of the fruits of their toil by unjust taxes and their substance is spent in riotous living.

13. Wherefore, I say unto you, these things must cease.

14. No chief can be greater than his King, nor is the King beholden to any chief.

15. Those whose lust for power hath led them into the

path of deceit and treachery and false teaching, ye must cast out utterly.

16. When it came to the ears of the people what King Ted had said they rejoiced and were exceeding glad.

17. For they knew their King, that he was terrible in his strength; and they said among themselves: The judgment has come!

CHAPTER II.

1. Then the judges of Rail gathered in council and summoned Double—II., considered mighty in the South.

2. He told the judges how he gathered tithes from the people, even as Double—J in the North; they two collecting tribute on all things that come from the ground and are used in barter.

3. The judges were amazed at his cunning and his devious ways of waxing fat.

4. He told them how he even went into the inner chambers of the temple of the money-changers and levied upon them that are accounted greatest among their fellows, both Jew and Gentile.

5. The judges marvelled that he could buy and sell the same things at the same time, trading only with himself, and extract continuous and surpassing profit thereby.

6. But that he did that it might be fulfilled as was written: There shall arise among you princes whose eyes shall see things before they appear, who shall do things before they happen, because their right hands will not know what their left hands have seized.

7. And the judges said unto him: How can these things be?

8. He saith: Search your records and find for yourselves. Whereat they marvelled greatly, for no man ever spake as he spake.

9. They indeed accounted him a soothsayer. The records availed them nothing.

10. One thing he did as other men. He quarreled with his neighbors. Aye, and one other thing—he fished.

11. As was his wont, he lifted his voice mightily against Double—J, arguing how he impoverished the land and walked backward in his sleep.

12. But Double—J laughed him to scorn, saying: Hath he dominion also over Time, as well as Place?

13. And it came to pass that Double—H. demanded of the judges that the other chief be summoned also, but they abided their time.

14. On the evening of the sixth day he went to the palace of King Ted and sought an audience of the King.

15. It pleased the King to see him for the wondrous stories he had told.

16. And the King said unto Double—H.: Render unto the people the things that are the people's and unto Ted the things that are Ted's.

17. Whereupon the chief departed wondering.

CHAPTER III.

1. King Ted was moved with a great compassion for his people, for they were drunken with prosperity.

2. He gave unto them new commandments and admonished them.

3. The people did harken unto his words, and they made an idol of the King's scepter, which was a big stick.

4. And out of this came the saying: He that ruleth with a big stick, the same is a big stickler.

5. Now one of the new laws given unto the people was that they should multiply and replenish the earth, the which the people did with unction and without stint.

6. Verily, the stork became a bird of sacred omen and sat in the eagle's nest.

7. And so with the other laws of the King, the people obeyed those it pleased them to obey or those perforce they needs must obey—for the shadow of the scepter was ever about them.

8. Each man besought his neighbor to do the bidding of the King, that the King therein might be glorified.

9. Out of the riot of richeousness there sprang a sect of the Pharisees known as Muckrakes.

10. These the king despised with a bitter hatred, even as he did the Sadducees whom he called the Mollycoddles.

11. In those days the chiefs of the Tribes of Rail were possessed of intense virtue and they loved their King, with madness.

12. And one of the greatest of them was Pier Pont, whose tribes were scattered throughout the East and whose fame spread unto the uttermost parts of the earth.

13. He also had dominion over the water, for which the other chiefs held him in much esteem because their vineyards were ever thirsty; and the season was dry.

14. Fearing the approach of the lean years Pier Pont set out upon a long journey into a far country.

CHAPTER IV.

1. Now Pier Pont was in favor with King Ted.

2. In answer to this chief's supplications the King consented to receive the chiefs of the neighboring tribes, namely, Mac, of the Tribe of Pennsy, and another chief whose surname was Melon; likewise Chief Hew-It, whose camp was powerful in the Northwest grain fields.

3. And E—Double—H. was also among those chosen for the pilgrimage to the white palace of the ruler.

4. But not Double—J—H. for he and E—Double—H. were neighbors, and the mission was a mission of peace and good will toward men.

5. The spirit of Double—J was consumed with envy and he would not be comforted.

6. He said in his haste: Behold all tribes are rotten!

7. Whereupon Chief Stick-Knee, of the Great West, clapped his hands with joy and cried: Amen! which being interpreted means, mine too.

8. And they fain would fill their bellies with sour grapes.

9. It amazed the people to hear these words and to see them filling the air with lamentation.

10. There were among the people many stricken with palsy and sinking of the spine; others were infirm of knee, and great multitudes saw as through the bottom of a glass darkly.

11. Those that harkened unto the counsel of the Spirit of Darkness sold all that they had, and were poor.

12. They were led as lambs to the slaughter.

13. Those that deserted the camps fell among bears which devoured them, as they would devour the male-born of their cattle.

14. So the heart of Pier Pont and the hearts of the chosen chiefs were consumed with a great pity for their erring chil-

dren and for the little ones that had wandered from their fold.

CHAPTER V.

1. And it came to pass in those days that a great wind came and beat upon the temple of the money-changers and shook it until every stone was shaken.

2. Whereupon the chiefs of the Tribes of Rail said among themselves: Verily, hath a plague been visited upon the people for the sins of their lawmakers.

3. King Ted heard the commotion but feared naught.

4. He commanded the servants of his treasure-house to distribute alms in the market-place.

5. And the King communed with himself in this wise:

6. The chiefs of Rail have the law and the profits—what seek they of me? I have given no commandment unto the wind that it should frighten them.

7. Truly this is a perverse generation full of fear and trembling, and their leaders have storms of the brain and do froth at the mouth, while their little ones wander into the wilderness to be eaten of bears which walk in the darkness seeking whom they may devour.

8. In vain have I admonished them to repent, these stiff-necked and rebellious chiefs, but they heeded me not.

9. Now they fain would approach the throne walking on their hands and knees, covered with sackcloth and ashes; and crying, Unclean! Unclean!

10. I will receive them, not for their repentance but that my name may be glorified among my people.

11. And I will say unto them: Purge ye first the inner parts and then shall ye be clean. Cast off the mantle of holiness, which deceiveth none but thee. Repent in secret. Love thy King with all thy heart and know him, that he can do no wrong, and love thy neighbor as thy neighbor loves thee.

12. Verily, the Tribes of Rail should dwell together in peace—but not too much, for there is a peace that passeth all understanding.

13. Such peace possesseth the little fishes when the greater fishes receive them into their bellies.

14. And of such peace is the Kingdom of Mammon.

CHAPTER VI.

1. There was division among the chiefs of Rail who were chosen by Pier Pont to confer with King Ted.

2. Some of them feared what the people might say, and some others were exercised lest the King should command them to play with him in the courtyard; for he was fond of games.

3. Now the King's favorite game was called Squardeel, which he played with the big stick.

4. It behooved the chiefs to humor the King and to play Squardeel with all their might, for this game did the King invent to amuse the multitudes; but the spirit of the chiefs rebelled against the game for the King played it with exceeding roughness.

5. And it came to pass on the seventh day that E—Double—II. again sought the presence of the King and besought him, saying:

6. Most valiant and triumphant King! Would it please thee to play the game of our fathers which they called the Fairplay?

7. But the King heard him not, for Squardeel was the apple of his eye; and he had been warned in a dream against a race of scribes who went about screaming and spreading terror among the lawmakers.

8. These same scribes were clad in pink sheets with phacteries of flaming red and they mingled their tears with the ink.

9. And in his vision the King heard them tell the people that his cunning had departed and that Squardeel was among the things that were.

10. So he said unto himself: I will await the coming of the chiefs and they shall do my bidding and all the people will magnify my greatness.

11. So he summoned the chosen among the lawmakers and taught them many things. He even showed them how to spell.

12. And he said unto them: Whom do men say that I am?

13. And they answered as with one voice: Truly, thou are Ted. Whereupon he rejoiced for the lawmakers had great discernment.

14. Then said he unto them: It hath been noised about

that I do administer justice and judgment with undue haste. What think ye?

15. And again they answered as with one voice: We do not think.

16. That it might be fulfilled as was written: He that soweth the seed the same shall gather the harvest.

CHAPTER VII.

1. Now one of the lawmakers was Dan—Een, the son of Ill—Noise, and he sat in a high seat in the King's synagogue, for he was a devout man and turned his face to the East when he prayed; and the evil-doers of Rail feared him greatly.

2. The laws that Dan—Een did make were given unto the Tribe of Ill-Scent, which the army of E—Double—H. had seized in the night, when Chief Stuyve, surnamed Sucker, was asleep; also unto the Camp of All—Ton, which got its name from the black mines, which the people dug, and which E—Double—H. likewise had seized in battle and held captive.

3. Unto other mighty tribes of Rail also did Dan—Een give laws, and the chiefs did pay him taxes as one worthy of his hire, except that the taxes levied upon Ill—Scent were never fully paid.

4. So the King counselled Dan—Een and the other lawmakers to beware lest any chiefs should set themselves above the law and become enamored of their own greatness, forgetting that they held their power in trust for all the people and that their talents were given unto them for the everlasting glory of the King.

5. For the unpardonable sin was too much success.

6. When the day of the pilgrimage drew nigh the chosen chiefs of Rail took counsel of one another and it was agreed that Melon should set out alone, for the feet of the others were cold.

7. The name of this chief sounded sweet in the ears of Rail in time of trouble, for by interpretation it meant a new haven.

8. And Melon's countenance was smooth, even to the back of his neck, as of one born to smoothness.

9. And no man could pluck his beard nor rob him of his

scalp for every hair of his head was numbered—and they were without number.

10. And the light of Melon's countenance shone behind as before.

11. In the days that had departed Melon had been a neighbor of Double—J—II., and he learned of his neighbor how to look in opposite directions at the same time.

12. So he became a scapegoat for the chosen chiefs and set out alone to see the King.

CHAPTER VIII.

1. And it came to pass that certain of the chiefs of the Tribes of Rail, fearing the approach of the lean years, said among themselves:

2. Behold, our vineyards are too small, but wherewith shall we make them big? Our lawmakers have brought desolation upon the land and the husbandmen are puffed up.

3. And others said the King had caused these things to be as a warning to the people, lest their chiefs should encompass the earth.

4. Now there were in those days handmaidens who danced in public places, who were called the show-virgins and they were in great favor with the money-changers, before the great wind came.

5. When the show-virgins were faint with hunger the small birds came unto them and they were filled. And when they were athirst the blood of ancient grapes gushed forth from the winepress.

6. Then would the money-changers sit with them and break bread and bottles and the hearts of lawfully wedded wives.

7. The show-virgins were arrayed in purple and fine linen and rode about in chariots.

8. Those who beheld them afar did stretch their necks like as unto rubber, and those to whom the maidens would do honor did likewise stretch their legs.

9. And one of the Ishmaelites whose name was Common-Law-Son lifted his voice mightily and cried: Verily, I say, this is a sign given unto you, a high sign, that ye may wonder. For this is the day-of-signs-and-wonders.

10. But a greater sign shall I give unto you, and it shall

be the sign of the Double Cross, for such is the sign of the times.

11. And other signs shall I give you in due season and ye shall do more wondering.

12. Some said: He is a doubting Thomas. Others said: He seeth things. But the chiefs of Rail heeded him not.

13. While the chiefs were hedging in their vineyards Pier Pont was yet afar off in a strange country, and they were sore grieved that he should leave them, for they had heard the great wind beat upon the temple of the money-changers and were afraid.

14. And there was none to comfort them.

CHAPTER IX.

1. King Ted said: The chiefs of Rail have seen the light and their eyes are sore for they are prone to walk in darkness. Yet shall I cause more light to shine upon them and I will do them good.

2. I shall be the law. I will give it to them. Verily, they will get theirs, good. Verily, they will get theirs, plenty.

3. A new commandment shall I give unto them, which will read: Thou shalt not water thy stock by day! Yea, and another commandment: Thou shalt not water thy stock by night!

4. Fruit unto fruit! They sent unto me their Melon and I have delivered unto them a royal lemon; that it might be fulfilled as was written: Thou canst not gather the clear persimmon from a prune tree.

5. They have bathed themselves in immunity and perfumed their garments with righteousness; yet it availeth them nothing for I shall be as a frost forever.

6. And when he had spoken these words unto himself the King went out among the scribes and warned them that they hold their peace; for the hour had not yet come when they should know the mind of the King.

7. The scribes lingered at the gates of the palace garden for their souls yearned for the beats that grew therein, and the beats were exceeding ripe.

8. And it came to pass that the little cloud upon the sky over the temple of the money-changers which the people saw on the day of the great wind, at first no bigger than a man's

hand, did spread over all the sky and strange shadows fell upon the land.

9. And the tents of all the Tribes of Rail were filled with sadness. Then would each man say to his neighbor: What meaneth this sign in the heavens? How cometh this darkness in the noonday? But none could answer.

10. Each day there came new winds from the four corners of the earth and filled the market-place with a rumbling noise.

11. Some said: The moon is full! Others said: It is the King!

12. Straightway strange things did come to pass. Those that were long became short and those that were short became shorter. To those that had was given abundantly and from those that had not was taken, even that which they had.

13. Two men sat together by a board. From one the skin was taken and the other lost his head.

14. And the money-changers called upon the people, from house to house, crying out unto them in words that should never be uttered: Behold, thy margin is wiped away; yea, verily, hath thine account been closed!

15. For the wind bloweth where it listeth. Man born of woman may sometimes get in right but none escapeth the squeeze forever, neither Jew nor Gentile.

CHAPTER X.

1. Now one of the Pharisees was Rocky-Fellow, who prayed on the housetop and let his light shine before all men.

2. And one of his ceremonies was the laying on of hands, which he did unceasingly; and he took the stranger in.

3. And he taught in the synagogue, saying: Behold, have I not kept the commandments? Have I not kept the Sabbath and mine own counsel?

4. Then would the publicans and sinners say: Yea, Rocky-Fellow, thou hast kept all these, and much more besides. Thou hast been given a great trust and great is thy faith—in thyself.

5. He preached humility, frugality and charity, these three, and the greatest of these is charity, for it covereth the most.

6. But with all his devoutness he could not observe the feast days as other men, for he had trouble in the inner parts.

7. The sect of the Pharisees called the Muckrakes hated him above all other men because he was holier than they and richer, and they despised riches even more than themselves.

8. But the men of learning loved him for he gave unto them freely of his shekels and anointed them with oil.

9. He was not in favor with King Ted, for he would not play Squardeel, which was the royal game, as the King would have him play, but he played the game ever in his own way, which was past finding out.

10. And the chiefs of the Tribes of Rail were beholden unto Rocky-Fellow, the Pharisee, for what he did to them and they paid him tithes, which the King said it was not lawful for them to do.

11. Thereupon Rocky-Fellow took possession of certain of the Tribes of Rail, having purchased them with oil and brass and the tithes he had received, lo! these many years, and he said unto himself: Shall the master not do as he will in his own vineyard?

12. And it came to pass in those days that the husbandmen in the vineyards of the Tribes of Rail in the West gathered together and said one to the other: Are not the days of the pass over? Is not the laborer worthy of his hire? It hath been given unto us, as unto the lightning, to strike where we will.

13. Then the shadows fell upon the land once more and the chiefs of Rail were troubled in spirit, for they beheld red lights ever before their faces and knew not whence they came, and they heard the sound of the winds in the market-place and knew not whither they went.

14. But King Ted, having again commanded the servants of his treasure-house to distribute alms in the market-place, remained within the white palace and kept his peace.

15. For he was troubled with a dream which the sooth-sayers said had never before befallen to the slumbers of any king, and they could not explain its meaning, but they called it Third-Term.

16. The name of his dream sounded terrible in the ears of King Ted, but his face bore a smile like as unto the smile of a wild beast and it remained in his countenance even unto the present day.

CHAPTER XI.

1. Behold! King Ted himself, with his own hands, hath taken tithes from the Tribes of Rail.

2. These words spake E—Double—H., chief of the tribes in the South, which were called Pacific though they were ever at war with the northern tribes, whose lord and master was Double—J—H., the prophet.

3. Hearing these words the people were amazed, for the King had given unto himself no commandment against the taking of tithes, and they knew the King could do no wrong.

4. And the first of the commandments was this: Thou shalt love thy King and honor him.

5. King Ted was exceeding wroth for the birds of the air had flown into the inner chamber of E—Double—H. when the great chief slumbered and took the King's secret messages from the tent and delivered them into the hands of the scribes.

6. Whereupon the King delivered unto the scribes other messages without number, and the letters of these were long but the words were short and the King said he fain would make them shorter.

7. And the King went about muttering as though in great pain, Taintso! Taintso! which being interpreted means, You're another. But the people knew not its meaning and were sore perplexed.

8. They looked upon the King's face and saw that it was pale. Some said: It is the pale of civilization. Others said: He is sick. But the chiefs of Rail said among themselves: It is just his cheek, and there is none other like unto it under the sun.

9. And it came to pass that the big stick, which was the royal scepter, trembled in the King's hand, for the dream which he had and which the soothsayers called Third-Term troubled him by night and by day.

10. And it troubled also all the people, but those that it most troubled were the chiefs of the Tribes of Rail.

11. With one accord they hailed E—Double—H. as a deliverer, but not openly for they saw the King was angry and they feared the scepter.

12. Seeing the chiefs inclined to rebellion the King called his lawmakers and counsellors together and commanded them that they remove all water from the vineyards, although they

were already very dry, until the cry for help should go up from every camp.

13. For of all the plagues the chiefs feared drought the most.

14. There were giants in those days. One of the greatest of these was Andrew, the son of Corn—Eggie. He was many cubits long of experience and his head was many cubits in thickness. His sides were ribbed with iron and he went about in high places with naked knees, teaching the people until the land was deluged with learning.

15. Throughout every camp and upon every vineyard the floods descended and there sprang from the ground between the sunset and the dawn and without the aid of man new temples of learning, which the people called the Corn—Eggie temples, in Andrew's honor;

16. That it might be fulfilled as was written: Even the bookworm in his turn will turn.

17. Now Andrew was afflicted with an infirmity of the mouth and had eaten mush from his childhood, the which thickened his speech until he spoke like a Pharisee with paralysis of the tongue.

18. When the fit was on him he would hoot like an owl.

19. He called the money-changers sinners, and rich men the chief of sinners, and he prayed in the housetops like Rocky-Fellow, the Pharisee, that he might die poor; but his prayer was not answered for he prayed as he taught, with a mushy mouth and not in sincerity and in truth.

20. When Andrew heard the King saying, Taintso, it grieved him for the word, taint, had a hidden meaning to the giants of those days and the land was filled with the smell of decayed money, like as though a mighty cheese had been rent asunder.

21. But the people gave Andrew a new title—Sir, Cease!—for the people had surcease of learning and Andrew had spoken sufficient unto the day of judgment.

CHAPTER XII.

1. In his wrath Ted said: All men are liars.

2. For one of the chiefs of the Tribes of Rail had spoken blasphemous words about the King, which did cause the King's teeth to gnash, and there was much fury in the white palace.

3. Now the blasphemous chief was E—Double—H., of the Pacific tribes in the South, which were ever at war with the northern tribes, whose lord and master was Double—J—H., the prophet.

4. The people heard the blasphemy and accounted the chief accursed for they loved their King with a great and abiding love, and E—Double—H. was without honor even in his own country.

5. And it came to pass in those days that Sodom and Gomorrah were united and became as one city and the people called it Spit-Burg; for many there were who spat upon it.

6. Spit-Burg found favor with the money-changers and the show-virgins, for its vineyards were bursting with plenty and those that dwelt therein spent their substance in riotous living.

7. And from thence came Andrew, the son of Corn—Eggie, who was a giant; the same Andrew who had the spelling bees in his bonnet.

8. When Andrew had gone, those that dwelt in Spit-Burg went astray and became as the fleshplotters of Egypt, and they set up a new idol in their midst to worship it, the which was called Idol-Ness.

9. And they took unto themselves a new queen and called her Little Egypt.

10. All the male-born that were in wedlock had concubines and the concubines formed a community of interest, so that no man knew his own concubine from another's.

11. And from this came the saying: Dost thou remember Lot's wife? For they were given to gossip.

12. Many there were as fresh as she, but they were not worth their salt. Few turned to salt but many turned to rubber.

13. For all these things Spit-Burg would have been destroyed by floods and smoke and the fumes of fearful money were it not for almost twenty-eight nearly righteous men in that place.

14. So the place was saved lest peradventure there might be found therein one virtuous person.

CHAPTER XIII.

1. In those days there was a race of Philistines called the Demmik-Rats, and they were fierce.

2. Their chief was called Brine, or the Ever-Fresh One, and he was fond of running. Whenever he ran he was behind but when he ceased running he was very much to the front. And from his mouth there came sweet sounds as from a silver trumpet, and multitudes followed him.

3. To them he preached and he prayed in public places, like as a Pharisee.

4. The chiefs of the Tribes of Rail feared Brine for his false doctrine and they called him the Sixteen Puzzle. But King Ted loved Brine, though he hated the Philistines with a bitter hatred and he knew also that the heart of Brine coveted the white palace and the throne therein and the scepter, which was a big stick.

5. Now one of the heresies which Brine did preach was this: All carriers are common. Therefore, let the common people be the common carriers. For it is written in the common law: To the common all things are common.

6. Then Brine built unto himself a shrine on the commons of the great West, whence cometh the hot air, and he called the shrine Commoner; but the scribes called it commonplace.

7. His favorite game was the royal game of Squardeel, and he played it more roughly even than the King.

8. For this also did the chiefs of the Tribe of Rail hate Brine; and they feared to conspire further against Ted lest Brine should seize the scepter and cast them into the outer darkness, where there is wailing and gnashing of teeth.

9. Now the most pious of the Tribes of Rail was St. Paul. Its lines were set in pleasant places and its vineyards were fruitful and its stock multiplied.

10. The lord of these vineyards was Earl Ling, whose soul yearned for dominion over a Pacific tribe so that he tried to make one of his own.

11. But it came to pass that Ling looked backwards and he was disquieted within himself.

12. And Ling said: Lo! The lean years are upon us and the lawmakers are mad. Let us close our vineyards lest the hire of the husbandmen be higher.

13. His spirit was willing but the flesh was weak; so his covetousness could not be conquered, and the new tribe was created in the wilderness and it was called St. Paul-Pacific, and Ling anointed it with oil and Rocky-Fellow, the Pharisee, gave it his blessing.

14. So the new tribe dwelt in piety and peace between the warring tribes which were ruled over by Double—J—H. and E—Double—H., greatest of the chiefs of Rail in their day and generation.

CHAPTER XIV.

1. King Ted reigned in the year of the Great Thaw, and in those days a great trial came upon the people.

2. Many were called but few were chosen—only twelve in number; and they suffered the City of Spit-Burg to uncover her shame in their presence. Nor could they do aught else according to the law.

3. For three score days and ten they hearkened unto the interpreters of the law and them that do minister unto the mad, likewise the show-virgins.

4. And their eyes beheld the White Sepulchres, within which are dead men's bones and all uncleanness.

5. And the twelve were perplexed with the babel of sound about their ears so that they could not render judgment or find succor for the multitudes in pain.

6. So they became divided and went their ways and were heard of no more.

7. Then all the people trembled with fear lest another trial should be visited upon them as a judgment for the sins of Spit-Burg, whence came Corn—Eggic, the giant.

8. But King Ted had trials of his own.

9. The chiefs of the Tribes of Rail upbraided the King mightily, but in silence, for they lived in the shadow of the scepter, which was a big stick, and the shadow had deepened from the day that E—Double—H., chief of the Pacific tribes, committed the unpardonable sin and blasphemed Ted.

10. And Brine, ruler of the race of Philistines, called the Demmik-Rats, ceased not, night nor day, to plot against the throne, for he fain would seize the white palace and there make his abode.

11. Then gathered together the princes and mighty men among the Philistines and they summoned the most skilful harper to play for them.

12. His name was Harpey and he harped continually on one string but he brought forth strains that were sweet in the ears of the Philistines.

13. The scribes said: Harpey straineth for effect. And so it was for he sang a hymn of sacrilege.

14. But King Ted heard it not and there was no blood shed.

15. Among other sore trials of the King and his people was Corn—Eggie, the giant, who went about, preaching peace and a good will but he brought them profanity in Stead; and none could read Corn—Eggie's will to see whether it was good.

16. And Corn—Eggie said: It is hard for a rich man to go to heaven, poor.

CHAPTER XV.

1. Now Pier Pont was three score and ten and it was meet that the other chiefs of the Tribes of Rail should do him honor.

2. So it came to pass that while he was yet in a far country and sojourning among strange people Double—J—H., the prophet, and E—Double—H., the blasphemer, met in Pier Pont's tent, and the money changers were amazed.

3. For these two chiefs hated each other with a deadly hatred, though they were not of kin, and their tribes were ever at war.

4. But Double—J—H. and E—Double—H. shook hands and then turned their backs and shook their fists and departed in peace, for it was considered rude in those days to shed a neighbor's blood in a stranger's tent.

5. One of the Pacific tribes that remained outside the dominion of E—Double—H. was called Miss Hourie, whose lord and master was George, the son of Jay.

6. This tribe was fair to look upon but its vineyards were very dry and its stock was the lean kine of which the Scriptures speak, and in time of trouble there was a rattling of bones throughout Miss Hourie which frightened brave men away,

7. Until Chief Stuyve, surnamed Sucker, whose tribe had been seized and ravished by E—Double—H., namely the tribe of Ill-Scent, beheld the plight of Miss Hourie and was moved with compassion.

8. Whereupon Stuyve called upon Chief George, the Jay, and asked to share his tent, and George was pleased that it should be so.

9. For George had taken unto himself other tribes both East and West and they were so scattered he feared they might fall among thieves or faint by the wayside, or perchance wander off the map.

10. So he received Stuyve into his bosom; from which came the saying: Whoso setteth a snare or casteth a net the same may be taken in.

11. And another saying that was common among the people of the Pacific Tribe of Miss Houri was this: Ye see what ye do see but ye know not until ye are shown.

CHAPTER XVI.

1. King Ted circumcised his motives and sanctified his thoughts and became a god, in his mind.

2. Many said he came from heaven to bless the land with rich harvests and feed the multitudes on righteousness, while others said he was sent as a warning to the wicked;

3. But the chiefs of Rail said: We care not whence he came nor whither he goeth but only how long he will stay. How long, O Lord! How long! For they heard of the King's dream, which the soothsayers called Third-Term.

4. And it came to their ears that the King would cast his mantle of holiness on another, a mighty man who carried a great weight and whose name was Daft; and that Ted would place in Daft's hands the scepter, which was a big stick, and cause him to sit on the throne in the white palace and have dominion over all the things that are.

5. The chiefs of Rail could not divine the purpose of the King. Some said he did this for his own sake and for Daft's sake. Others said: For God's sake.

6. But the King heeded them not and he trusted Daft, knowing he had no will of his own; and he loved Daft since the days when he was a faithful manservant in the household of the royal daughter.

7. So the King, accounting Daft as being long worthy, made him a warrior and Daft waxed bigger daily in the opinion of the King and in the sight of the people, until he seemed more than a man.

8. Brine, the Demmrik-Rat, planned to run a race with Daft for the warrior's legs were many cubits broad and Brine wanted to make sport for the Philistines in that way.

9. Daft looked down on Brine, as Goliath once leered at

David, and he was not loth to run a race with him because Brine with all his running had never won a race;

10. Whereupon the people laughed in derision at the sight of the two runners, like as a locust and a toad in a contest.

11. But King Ted was not moved for he knew his will was divine and the people must find in him their every blessing and do his bidding from the rising to the setting of the sun; and even in the night the people dreamed only as the King would have them dream.

12. So when the drought came upon the vineyards of the Tribes of Rail, and other plagues like the madness among the lawmakers and the green bugs that consumed Teck's ass alive, the people were not afraid for they knew heaven was behind the King and the land would yield abundantly so long as the King was pleased.

13. But the chiefs of the Tribes of Rail feared for their stock when the water was gone, for the mouths of the hungry husbandmen were open for much meat and it was not safe to let the lawmakers run loose where the stock was.

14. Then Ted said to the chiefs: I will see about thy stock. The best of it can get along without water. Let the rest be cut down and branded before all the people. Henceforth no chief of Rail shall give unto any man his bond unless it be as good as his word.

15. A good tree bringeth forth good fruit, and melon is not fruit.

16. Behold, the day cometh when no man can work—another.

CHAPTER XVII.

1. There was a close bond of union among the husbandmen in those days so that whoso spoke ill of any husbandman incurred the enmity of all.

2. And they made laws of their own and gave unto themselves new commandments until King Ted was constrained to rebuke them.

3. Certain of the husbandmen were charged with smiting a lawmaker in the back when it was dark until he yielded up the ghost, and the King was angry, for he had not given authority unto any husbandman to kill a lawmaker, and the lives of the lawmakers belonged to the King.

4. So he branded the headstrong husbandmen with a red hot letter.

5. In his wrath he likened them to E—Double—H., who had spoken blasphemous words and was accounted cursed forever.

6. So the husbandmen rebelled, though they loved Ted, for they could not endure his scorn nor bear the weight of his displeasure.

7. But Ted feared nothing except the dream which he had and which the soothsayers called Third-Term.

8. And at that time the nations of the earth had gathered together in the Town of James, where was the home of John, the son of Smith, who had begotten many sons, though the greatest of them was John.

9. It pleased Ted to journey thither to do honor to the house of Smith, for Ted worshipped the stork, which was a family idol of all the Smiths.

10. Seeing all the nations gathered together, his heart was glad for he knew they were all prepared to fight for peace.

11. So he commanded the eagle to scream over that place, and he called the place Great Show, and the scribes went about the land telling of the wonders they had seen.

12. And Ted read an epistle to the Tribes of Rail and the husbandmen, counselling them to walk uprightly, and to honor their fathers and their King.

13. For upon the necks of them that sinned the big stick would surely fall, be they rich or poor, Jew or Gentile.

14. And the time was near for the chastisement of the chiefs of the Tribes of Rail.

15. Ted said: It hurts me as much as thee, but not in the same place.

CHAPTER XVIII.

1. Rocky-Fellow, the Pharisee, seeing he was ripe for the scythe of Time, from which no man can flee, called his only begotten son and said:

2. My mantle is thine. Henceforth oil blessings shall flow from thee. Hide not thy light under a bushel, nor in any corner of the grain market, but shine upon all men without ceasing and know that in every man thou canst find a good thing.

3. Rocky-Fellow sent also for his natural born brother and said: Have I not been a near relative of thine?

4. And his brother said: Yea, thou hast been very close.
5. Then the physicians came but they found the aged Pharisee was holding his own, and much more besides.

6. They warned him to take no chances but he took everything that came his way.

7. The chiefs of the Tribes of Rail who paid him tribute said among themselves: He hath a great will, like as Corn-Eggie, the giant. But old age is in his midst and his heart is mellow so that he is giving up the cares of the world and soon will give up his ghost, for he truly loveth charity.

8. As was his wont, Rocky-Fellow went into the housetops and prayed, and looking into heaven he said: How beautiful are the streets of gold. It is my will to leave the earth and all that it contains—to my son John.

9. But his brother William, and the chief butler of his household, Henry, and the money-changer, James, who was called the Still Man, were sore displeased for they wanted the portion that belonged to each of them.

10. But King Ted set his face against Rocky-Fellow for he was the richest among men and abounded in tricks that were vain, so that when Ted's eyes were on one trick Rocky-Fellow turned many others and took them all in.

11. And Rocky-Fellow would not play the royal game of Squardeel in the straight and narrow way the King would have him play.

12. And Rocky-Fellow invented a game of his own called Stannardoil, which some found crude and others refined but all agreed was slippery; and there was no man could play that game with the Pharisee and win.

13. Many there were who lost all that they had in such games.

14. It came to pass in those days that Brine, the prince of the Philistines, who were called Demmik-Rats, had a terrible dream, which the soothsayers called Third-Time, like as they called King Ted's dream, Third-Term.

15. And Brine girded his loins like as a runner about to enter a race but he counselled the Philistines to be of good cheer for no matter how much he ran, nor how often, he would never run away.

CHAPTER XIX.

1. The heart of King Ted was troubled about the game of

Stannardoil which Rocky-Fellow, the Pharisee, played with much skill and cunning.

2. Rocky-Fellow called Stannardoil the game of light, but he played it in the dark.

3. In all his doings the Pharisee was smooth, even to the crown of his head, while the King's ways were rough, even as his riding.

4. Now the King was a royal sport and when he could not beat a game he straightway set out to kill it with the scepter, which was a big stick.

5. So he smote Stannardoil in many places with all his might until it should have been many times dead but the game went on and the Pharisee smiled in the shadow of the scepter.

6. Each time Ted sought to break up his game, Rocky-Fellow went upon the housetop and prayed that the King's wrath be turned aside for he knew Stannardoil was stronger than the scepter, and it grieved him to see the King cherish a false hope.

7. Rocky-Fellow did not love Ted as he should or he would himself have destroyed Stannardoil for he had created the game and no other man knew how it was made nor how it might be destroyed.

8. But Rocky-Fellow loved Stannardoil, even as Ted loved Squardeel, and he showed his only begotten son, John, how he could play it, inside with outsiders or outside with insiders, and always win.

9. Rocky-Fellow's natural born brother, William, also learned many strange things about the game, so that he could play either end or the middle, but neither William nor John could play both ends against the middle as the Pharisee did.

10. King Ted summoned the chosen among them that interpreted the law and administered justice, in the King's way, and commanded them to show the people wherein Stannardoil was a curse upon their children and a blight upon their vineyards; and this they did.

11. But it availed them nothing, for Rocky-Fellow had dug deep wells and tunnels in the earth and filled them with oil so that they were exceeding slippery, and no man could find Stannardoil, nor having found it lay his hands upon it.

12. Rocky-Fellow said: Stannardoil hath neither spot nor blemish.

13. Ted said: If it hath no blemish, why hideth it in the

dark corners in the noonday? And if it hath no spot, how can it change its spots?

14. For the King had touched it many times when playing with the Pharisee, but it had always slipped through his fingers.

15. And from this came the saying: 'Touch not lest ye be touched.'

CHAPTER XX.

1. In those days the people had great faith and all their possessions were held in some kind of trust.

2. The greatest of all the trusts was called Unitedsteal, whose author and finisher was Pier Pont, whom the money-changers loved more than any other chief of the Tribes of Rail.

3. Unitedsteal was in favor with Andrew, the son of Corn-Eggie, who was one of the giants of those days, and all the Tribes of Rail paid it tribute, so that it waxed bigger daily; and those who dwelt in the wicked City of Spit-Burg bowed down before it to worship it, like as they worshipped the Golden Calf.

4. Those to whom it was given to administer this great trust were men of iron but the fumes of fearful money entered their nostrils and behold, their brains became soft, like as the gums of a new-born babe.

5. First there came Charles, the son of Squab, and afterwards William, the son of Gorey, both of the House of Toil.

6. While sojourning in a far country Charles fell upon a bank called Montycarlo and broke it and likewise he broke his official neck.

7. But a worse fate was in store for William, the son of Gorey, upon whom the mantle of authority descended.

8. For he became enamored of a show-virgin and took her to wife, although he had another wife and it was considered sinful in those days, even in Spit-Burg, for any man to have more than one lawfully-wedded wife.

9. Nor was it even accounted worthy of men to have many concubines—if they let it be known.

10. So the money-changers scorned him for what he had done and the wrath of the people fell upon him, and he fled from his country for a season.

11. Thereupon the high priest who united him and the

show-virgin in holy wedlock, for thirty pieces of silver, was consumed with grief, and going into the temple before the congregation he cast the money down and washing his hands he cried:

12. How great an evil have I done! But it hath been done, and so have I.

13. The other priests and the people saw the evil even before he saw it and they knew it could not be undone, as was he who did it.

14. Then other high priests were warned against high life lest in seeking the high places they peradventure might find the higher criticism.

15. But William, of Unitedsteal, and the wife of his bosom searched the Scriptures and heeded not what the Congregationalists said, for they read in The Book of Ted these words: Blessed be the tie that binds.

16. The which became a common saying among the Tribes of Rail, where many ties were loose.

17. The bridegroom and the bride loved each other so much that when they entered the ship they gave up everybody else, and when the storm came they gave up everything they could.

18. They were never alone for the Scribes stuck to them like chilled syrup.

CHAPTER XXI.

1. The beasts of burden which carried the people and their goods to and fro in the land of Rail were mighty in size and strength and moved with amazing swiftness.

2. From their nostrils there came fire and smoke and steam, and they roared like thunder.

3. They were harnessed in iron and shod with iron and they were trained to leap the widest rivers and to climb the highest mountains. And their masters, the chiefs of the Tribes of Rail, had taught them many tricks.

4. Their fodder was a strange herb called capital, which grew wild and rank in those days, and they were given all the water they could drink, so that the fodder swelled within them until their bellies bulged.

5. It pleased their masters to see them so, but the people feared lest they should burst.

6. At times these beasts ran into one another with terrible

fury and were rent asunder, and the bodies of men were strewn by the wayside.

7. At other times they were seized with madness and leaped from the beaten path where they were driven and fell over steep places and were lost in the waters beneath.

8. Then would the people say: Who hath sinned that our little ones entrusted to the keeping of these beasts of the highway are thus wantonly destroyed?

9. Then would the chiefs of the Tribes of Rail look sad, and they calmed the weeping multitudes by saying: There is no sin amongst us, for this is as it happens to the children of men in all lands and ever has since civilization was born.

10. The chiefs of Rail sought to appease the wrath of the people with soft words and by distributing alms among the kinsfolk of those that were slain.

11. Inwardly the chiefs grieved deeply over the loss of their great beasts which laid great golden eggs.

12. And the chiefs were constrained to increase the hire of the drivers because of the danger, though they were in sore need of the shekels themselves.

13. But the people were never satisfied.

14. They caused the lawmakers to examine the beasts and to pass laws for taming them, and they praised King Ted for calling the chiefs to judgment.

15. Some even importuned the King to seize the beasts from the hands of the lawful owners and deliver them into the hands of the people, but the King said: Let us first see what manner of beasts they are.

16. For the King knew the people could not handle them. And it was not in the heart of the King to destroy any beast because its master had sinned.

CHAPTER XXII.

1. In those days there lived in the land of Rail two interpreters of the law whose names were Kill-Hog and Sever-Once, and King Ted loved them for their wisdom.

2. He caused them to sit in high places before the people and make known the iniquities of the chiefs of the Tribes of Rail.

3. He gave them authority among the commissioners of traffic and as a token of his favor he presented them each

with royal gumshoes so that the chiefs knew not the hour of their coming in or going forth.

4. It was their duty to know the King's mind and to read the law with such discernment that the commissioners of traffic would render judgment in accordance with the King's will.

5. Kill-Hog was the King's favorite for he played the royal game of Squardeel with exceeding roughness.

6. So it was given unto Kill-Hog to devise a punishment that should be meted out to Chief E—Double—H., the blasphemer; for this chief had committed the unpardonable sin of "too much success" and had taken the King's name in vain.

7. Wherefore it behooved the law to take its course, coarsely.

8. Now it chanced in the days that had long since departed and before ever Ted became the King that Kill-Hog was a servant in the household of Double—J—H., the prophet, whose tribes in the North were neighbors of the Pacific tribes over which E—Double—H. had dominion.

9. And, being neighbors, these tribes were ever at war with each other.

10. So Kill-Hog learned from his former master where his enemy's soft spots were and where the fences of the Pacific tribes were rotten.

11. For this also Ted loved Kill-Hog.

12. The birds of the air that had taken the King's secret messages from the tent of E—Double—H. when the great chief slumbered were never caught, and one night they entered Kill-Hog's tent, not far from the white palace, and in like manner they flew away with Kill-Hog's secret messages and delivered them into the hands of the scribes.

13. Then were the commissioners of traffic stricken dumb and again the wind beat upon the temple of the money-changers.

14. Fear seized the chiefs of Rail for they beheld the scepter, which was a big stick.

15. The people were amazed but grieved not at all over it. Some said: Kill-Hog himself is stuck.

16. But King Ted held his peace and Kill-Hog went his way rejoicing.

CHAPTER XXIII.

1. King Ted ruled over all the races of men that dwelt in the tents of Rail in those days—money-changers, Muckrakes, Mollycoddles; scribes and soothsayers; Philistines and Pharisees; Rail chiefs and race-suicides; lawmakers and libertines; undesirables and unmentionables; blasphemers and blowhards; hypocrites and humbugs, millions of mad men and all the mighty hosts of liars.

2. He also had dominion over the beasts of the field, the birds of the air and the fish of the sea and snakes.

3. And he knew all things that were known and many other things besides.

4. Certain of the scribes studied the animal life for the sake of their own habits and then went about telling the people strange stories and corrupting the minds of the children.

5. These scribes Ted despised, and he called them Naturefakirs, or, by interpretation, Animaliards.

6. He cautioned the people to take heed lest they believe too much for the King alone knew Nature.

7. The King knew that the things the Naturefakirs proved to be so were not so.

8. Being wise as a serpent, he knew no reptile could be square, and he said: Behold, it is mathematically impossible for an adder to multiply.

9. He studied the animal habits of scribes and found that most scribes saw snakes that were not there and before even the snakes had been born.

10. He was not as gentle as a dove, quite, but he would not permit gray wolves to feed upon the hearts of living deer or school trustees.

11. But unto the bears he gave much freedom to wander where they would, even among the lambs, and there was carnage in the streets of the market-place, even within the walls of the temple of the money-changers.

12. Wild bulls were let loose in their midst but the bears feared nothing for the bulls were without horns.

13. Ted pitied his people for their manifold sins of omission and commission, and the bowels of his compassion were moved.

14. The money-changers sinned most in commissions, and the race-suicides were most guilty of omission, but not as much as Ted thought.

15. Out of the great goodness of his heart Ted forgave the people many of their transgressions, knowing their limits of body and soul.

16. But there was no forgiveness for them that broke three of the commandments, which were these:

17. First. Thou shalt not take the name of thy King in vain.

18. Second. Thou shalt not commit race-suicide.

19. Third. Thou shalt not be guilty of too much success.

20. Being short of breath, Ted left the white palace and the haunts of men and went into the depths of the wilderness and massaged his lungs so that he could speak more strenuously to the people, and the name of that place was Bivalve Bay.

21. Unto the people the King sent only this message: Peace be with you—till I come again.

CHAPTER XXIV.

1. Chief Yoke-'em, of the 'Frisky Tribe of Rail, had many possessions, including the Rocky Island where Chief Wind-Shell was in authority.

2. The heart of Yoke-'em coveted the camp of All-Ton, which E-Double-II. had taken captive in the night, when Chief Fell-Ton was asleep.

3. Having dominion over so many Tribes of Rail, E-Double II. left Fell-Ton in authority over All-Ton, which so pleased Fell-Ton that he fell into another deep slumber like into a trance.

4. Whereupon Yoke-'em descended upon Fell-Ton's camp to make it his own, thinking E-Double-II. also slept.

5. But E-Double-II. smiled 26 times in a broad way and

said to himself: Behold, the egg hath been sucked dry, and Yoke-'em gets the shell.

6. So Yoke-'em moved the camp of All-Ton to his Rocky Island for a season, but the next season E-Double-H. took it from him, and Chief Fell-Ton served two masters for one pay envelope.

7. Until it came to pass that King Ted summoned E-Double-H. before the commissioners of traffic to tell what he felt like telling about it.

8. From the lips of the blasphemer the King learned that the blasphemer did not feel like telling anything that was not already known of all men.

9. Then said the King: He created credit for himself with discredit to himself.

10. Seeing the King was angry, E-Double-H. told Yoke-'em to keep All-Ton on his Rocky Island forever as a lemon orchard.

11. The which Yoke-'em did, but it soured his disposition.

12. And Rocky Island became filled with a strange silence that was very profane.

CHAPTER XXV.

1. And it came to pass in those days that the commissioners of traffic labored and brought forth a report.

2. It was not loud enough to startle the chiefs of the Tribes of Rail nor cause any commotion among the people, who had heard of the great travail and looked for a crash.

3. But they did not complain because the report pleased their King and they knew the noise the commissioners had produced was healthy though not robust.

4. Some called it the Half-Noise and others called it the Near-Explosion.

5. E-Double-H., chief of the Pacific tribes in the South, who had been guilty of blasphemy, examined the report with care and said it was sound, but that was all. He had never known but one other infant like it, namely Tommy, of the Rot family.

6. And again the blasphemer took the King's name in vain and scorned the scepter, which was a big stick, and he called himself a martyr.

7. Behold, he said, how the commissioners of traffic have reviled me and persecuted me and spoken all manner of evil against me falsely to please the King. Now have they given birth to a report that it may grow up and smite me. Take heed, O, ye chiefs of Rail, lest ye all be cast into prison.

8. King Ted heard these words and the scepter trembled in his hand.

9. He fain would slay the blasphemer but Rocky-Fellow, the Pharisee, saved his life by pouring oil upon him until he was so slippery none of the royal soldiers could catch him, though once they did catch Rocky-Fellow himself, but only for a little while and to no purpose.

10. But the days of E-Double-H. were numbered for he was accounted as one of the false profits.

11. In those days the vineyards of the Tribes of Rail were very dry but the chiefs of Rail were saturated with speech and leaked language continually, until the people prayed they might dry up.

12. One of those smitten with the plague of talk was Fin-Lee, chief of the Southern Tribe of Rail.

13. Whenever Fin-Lee opened his mouth more trouble fell upon his camp and the stock was stricken grievously.

14. And so with others of the chiefs who lost control of their mouths.

15. Chief Wind-Shell, of the Tribe of Rocky Island, boasted that he would make no more laws for the people.

16. The people said: Our will is the only law and there is no King but Ted.

CHAPTER XXVI.

1. In those days a high fence had been builded around the trusts, which held all the possessions of the people, who called the fence Tarif.

2. Many of the people said Tarif was too high. The Demmik-Rats wanted to tear it down.

3. Brine, prince of the Philistines and ruler under Ted over all the Demmik-Rats, would fain set fire to it for he wanted to lighten the burden of the people in this way.

4. But King Ted would not let anyone lay violent hands on Tarif.

5. He wanted to please all his subjects, so he promised to smooth off Tarif and make it more beautiful, on the inside. He even promised to take a little bit off the top.

6. Wise men of the East and strong men of the West and hard men of the North and smooth men of the South came together and talked about Tarif from one generation to another, but nothing ever came off.

7. But the King did other mighty things to keep his people amused and at peace among themselves.

8. Those of the trusts that transgressed the law, written or unwritten, he smote with the scepter, which was a big stick, like as he smote Stannardoil, the game of Rocky-Fellow, the Pharisee, only Stannardoil never stayed smitten.

9. One of the erring trusts was Toe-Back-O, which gathered all the weeds the people liked to smoke, and much of the cabbage. Another held the implements the people use in tilling the soil, and it was called Harvester.

10. Ted said: The laborers truly are many but Harvester is too much.

11. Another trust he found dangerous and puffed up was known as Powder.

12. The smoke of Toe-Back-O and the dust of Harvester and the smell of Powder filled the nostrils of the people until they scarce could breathe.

13. Whenever they cried for air the King commanded the commissioners of traffic to smite another trust, but he would not let any fresh air, nor anything else, get over Tarif nor under it. And in the King's high fence there were no holes whatsoever.

14. O fence of my fathers, said the King; defense of

every good trust—may thy shadow never shorten! Let every bad trust bust, and the worst trust first!

15. And out of this came the saying: Ted is on the fence.

CHAPTER XXVII.

1. Those were the days of plenty in the land of Rail. There was plenty of work to keep the people busy and plenty of trouble to keep them at home and plenty of talk to keep them guessing.

2. The whole earth staggered under a load of prosperity too heavy for it to bear.

3. The people were so thirsty for prosperity they gave all they had for it and cried for more;

4. And the more prosperity they got the poorer they became.

5. But some among them were very rich, like Rocky-Fellow, the Pharisee, and Corn-Eggie, the giant.

6. King Ted said their riches were swollen, so the people called their rich men swells.

7. Money-changers told the people to be of good cheer for poverty was the price of prosperity, like as war was the price of peace.

8. And the people said: Where did they get it?

9. The people asked for security and the money-changers gave them securities instead.

10. And the money-changers said: Your trusts and the chiefs of Rail need the money.

11. The King was sore displeased that these things were so and he told the rich men the parable of the Great Divide:

12. How Dives divided his bread with Lazarus by letting him eat the crumbs that fell from the rich man's table and straightway crossed the Great Divide into everlasting torment.

13. The King said unto the rich men: Between thee and me is a great gulf fixed, and between thee and the people shall I fix two Great Divides, one while thou livest and the other when thou art dead.

14. Then the rich men trembled for they knew Ted would tax their incomes first and afterwards the inheritances of their children.

15. The rich men thought the King had lost his reason but the people rejoiced and were exceedingly glad.

16. Those were the days of yellow perils.

17. One of these was a race of men across the sea who were small in body but big in their mind and who were called Jap-Knees.

18. Ted's people did not fear Jap-Knees but they feared the greater peril, which was much yellower and which they called Yellow-Press.

19. Now Yellow-Press was the worst plague that ever came upon the land.

20. It entered the homes of the just and the unjust, rich and poor, Jew and Gentile, and none could escape its terror.

21. It filled the minds of men with false doctrine and evil report, so that men despised their toil and hated their neighbors.

22. And Yellow-Press screeched continually, like the ships that pass in the night.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

1. One of the interpreters of the law was called Land-us, and it was given unto him to chastise Stannardoil in propitiation for the sins of the trusts.

2. Land-us would fain cast Rocky-Fellow, the Pharisee, into prison but he knew vengeance belonged only to the King.

3. So Land-us commanded Rocky-Fellow to return to the people many millions of shekels which he had taken as tribute from the camp of All-Ton, of the Tribes of Rail.

4. There was no water in Stannardoil, so Land-us soaked it.

5. But Rocky-Fellow gamboled on the green and taught in the synagogue as before.

6. The lord loveth a cheerful liver, he said. A glad hand is a joy forever.

7. Rocky-Fellow admonished the people, that they fill their hearts with brotherly kindness and their souls with Christian charity, and keep their lamps trimmed and burning.

8. And Rocky-Fellow told the people how he had toiled for them. He said: I have piped for thee and thou hast not danced sufficiently yet. Unless thou take heed thy name shall be Anathema.

9. He felt like Baalam's ass and refused to be driven out.

10. He prayed that the people would be meek and lowly in spirit and free from guile, and he told the scribes to look not upon the wine when it is red but to save their pence.

11. The scribes could not gambol on the green, nor on any other color, and their voices were never heard in the synagogue.

12. They called Rocky-Fellow the Good Samaritan, and they said: He certainly is good.

13. They grieved for him for they knew King Ted had a Bony-Part, which was hard and rough like a funny bone. And the Pharisee was up against it.

14. Then the wind beat again upon the temple of the money-changers, with more fury than ever, and the chiefs of the Tribes of Rail saw more red lights while darker shadows fell upon the land.

15. The husbandmen whose fingers polished the keys of industry by night and by day demanded more recompense for their labor and when their masters refused to give it they walked out of the vineyards and would not let others enter therein to take their places; and those who remained within to toil they called the Scabengers.

16. So it came to pass that a plague of silence was visited upon Ted's people.

17. Now, one of Rocky-Fellow's nearest of kin, a younger brother by the same only begotten father whom no man knew, had an open countenance and he was Frank in speech as in name, and he said:

18. Rocky-Fellow's holiness is wholly without, and full of holes. Within he is as ravening wolves.

19. Many others there were who maligned Rocky-Fellow in season and out of season, until the Pharisee became the most backbitten of all men of his day.

20. Even the teachers in Rocky-Fellow's temple of learning scorned him and bore evil witness against him.

21. Only one of the teachers of that generation could be found in any temple of learning to defend him, and this teacher had great consideration for the Pharisee and from him.

22. So Rocky-Fellow, the Pharisee, was content, and he said: The dogs have many days but there is only one Day in all this world for me.

CHAPTER XXIX.

1. Pier Pont came home at last and the money-changers rejoiced for a little while.

2. Pier Pont had a rough passage, so his Tribes of Rail passed dividends in sympathy.

3. Some chiefs of Rail passed the lie; others passed the punch. Chief Stuyve strove mightily with E—Double—H. for the Tribe of Ill-Scent, but in vain.

4. Seeing the seven lean years were nigh, Double—J—H. told the people the parable of the empty dinner pail, but they heeded him not, for they knew the King would command the lawmakers to feed them.

5. They drank deep draughts of prosperity and were always full.

6. Land-us, the mountain-minded judge, was wroth when he learned how the camp of All-Ton had paid tribute to Stannardoil, but he could not soak All-Ton after it had passed through the Pool of Immunity, which cleanseth all them that work iniquity—if they get in soon enough.

7. So Land-us told the people of All-Ton to go and sin no more.

8. And it came to pass at the same time that Kill-Hog, an interpreter of the law under Ted, pulled aside the mantle of holiness from Rocky-Fellow's shoulders and exposed the plain person of the aged Pharisee;

9. For Ted knew his people could not live by bread alone but needed food for thought.

10. Now, the greatest city in those days was called Goth-Am, for the Goths and vandals lived there and there the temple of the money-changers was builded.

11. Pier Pont lived in Goth-Am and saved the place from destitution.

12. Goth-Am covered the Island of Cocktail and had a Tribe of its own called Track-Shun, which burrowed into the bowels of the earth and fed on human skin.

13. It had three chiefs, namely, Anthony, the son of Bray Dee; August, the son of Bell Mont, and Thomas, the son of Rye Ann, and it got its laws from Lemuel, Eli and Quigg.

14. Goth-Am's ruler, under Ted, was Hews, a governor of renown. When he wasn't hewing he sawed wood, and his face was like a black broom.

15. Many thought Hews should be the King if Ted should die, but Ted was fearfully and wonderfully alive, yet.

16. Straightway he set out on a royal visit to Mrs. Hippy, the mother of many streams, for he saw there was no spring left in the Tribes of Rail.

17. Mrs. Hippy had a big mouth and she was in bad shape, but Ted loved her; so all the people knelt down to worship her.

18. And Ted said unto all them that dwelt in the land of Rail—one hundred and ten times ten hundred times the King said: He that hath ears to hear let him hear:—

19. In my flag are many stars that shall ever shine upon them that do my will, but for them that break my commandments I have provided many stripes.

CHAPTER XXX.

1. The last of the plagues was called Panic, for it came like a whirlwind and spread like a fire upon the plains.

2. Men fled from their own shadows, and the evil spirit of hallucination possessed their souls.

3. They had builded a tower of business into heaven and it fell upon their necks in the twinkling of an eye,

and they were confounded with a confusion of ideas like the confusion of tongues about the tower of Babel;

4. So that no man could think nor comprehend another.

5. All they could do was wriggle like a generation of vipers.

6. They had worshipped the golden calf, and the golden calf was consumed by Panic.

7. They had sold their birthright for a golden eagle, and King Ted removed the superscription from every coin:—In God we Trust; for the King knew the people did not even trust their trusts.

8. They were spiritually naked, and there was no Moses among them; only Ted.

9. Now, it came to pass that the King sought to restore the people's faith in himself and the money-changers by making one hundred millions of shekels; aye, and half a hundred million more.

10. But the people were never satisfied.

11. They cried for more money, though they needed it not, for when they got it they hid it away in dark corners.

12. The money-changers also hid the money and called on nations far away for more, though their own coffers already were bursting with shekels.

13. And the money-changers gave the people bits of parchment beautiful to look upon, and said that was money. But there was no substitute for confidence.

14. Credit became a blight and commerce was mildewed, and every man sat in the market-place eating ashes and wailing over the loss of things he thought he once had or other things perchance he might have had.

15. Seeking to divert the people's minds from Panic, the King told them about Third-Term, that it was only a dream, and he sent his iron ships across the sea.

16. And Ted said:—Blessed are the peacemakers!

CHAPTER XXXI.

1. When Panic and other plagues did cause the stock to sicken unto death the lawmakers delivered it into the hands of the undertakers, who called themselves receivers.

2. Certain of the chiefs of Rail became receivers in their own tribes, and they dug deep graves for the stock and did cause the lawful owners of the stock to pay for the burial thereof.

3. And among the great undertakers in those days were Chief George, the son of Jay, and Chief Stick-Knee, of the Tribe of Great West.

4. Other sons of Jay, not having stock to bury, buried their wives.

5. But E—Double—H. saved the camp of All-Ton with a mess of clover leaf, and likewise he saved the Tribe of Erre, or Ever Rotten, with five millions of clean shekels;

6. For the blasphemer heard what the supreme lawmakers said, that the Tribes of Rail must not be blown to pieces by the lesser lawmakers,

7. And he saw the new crop in the blade and the blades were golden, like silence.

8. The other chiefs of Rail rejoiced for these things, though dark shadows still compassed them about while red lights gleamed in their faces.

9. Double—J—H. still looked behind and heard the rattle of empty pails, and the trough of the money-changers was empty, though Chief Rye-Am, of the Tribe of Track-Shun, told them he had none of the swill.

10. Now Daft was Ted's heir apparent, though many said Hews was more heir apparent; and Daft and Hews told the people of the King's new commandment:

11. Thou shalt not bet.

12. And Brine, who coveted the white palace and the scepter, which was a big stick, uttered those words unceasingly, though Brine was constrained to bet upon himself when the son of John, the Svensksman, received homage from the Philistines, who were called Demmik-Rats.

13. John's son said:—Behold, I am a great rock in a weary land, but not too rocky.

14. John's son received homage also from some of the Publicans, who were Ted's chosen people, and from the Sinners, who thought for themselves.

15. So it came to pass that John's son was named Hcht-pot, which being interpreted means, the burr in the wool that won't pull out.

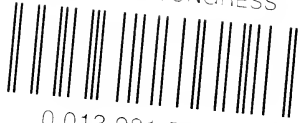
16. And all the people were amused at these things, for they loved better even than the King's game of Squardeed their own game of Pollyticks, which all their forefathers had played from the beginning of time.

Selah.





LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 013 981 040 5